A

ABOUT [ə'ba:t] - moving after an illness, e.g. "Is he getting about?"

ABOVE [ə'bɒv] - more than.

ACAUSE [ə'kɔz] [ə'kɒz] - because.

ACROSS [ə'krɔs] - on bad terms with, e.g. [ɛɪz gɔr ə'krɔs mɪ] 'he's got across me'.

ACTING ['aktɪn] - misbehaving.

ADDLE ['adl̩] - earn.

ADDLINGS ['adlɪnz] - earnings.

AFEARD [ə'fɪəd] - afraid.

AFFLE AND CAFFLE ['afl̩ ən 'kafl̩] ['afl̩ ən 'kɛfl̩] - argue, cough.

AFOOT [ə'fʊt] - up and about, especially after an illness.

AFORE [ə'fuə] - before.

AGAIN; AGAINST [ə'gɛn]; [ə'gɛnst] - near, beside. "Run again" - meet by chance.

AGATE [ə'gẹɪt] - to get AGATE of doing something, i.e. to make a habit of it.

ALE 'US [eɪl əs] - ale house, public house.

ALL; AND ALL [ən ɔ:ɬ] - as well, also.

ALLOWANCE ['lauəns] - supper beer.

ALLY ['alɪ] - alabaster marble, or any large marble, e.g. "blood ally", "glass ally". "Ally taw" - a big shooting marble.

ALONE used in the expression LET ALONE [lɛt ə'ləun] meaning "besides".

ALONG OF [ə'lɔŋ ɔn] - together with.

AMISS [ə'mɪs] - "not amiss", not bad.

AMONG HAND [ə'mɔŋand] - at home, e.g. "We're all among hand", we're all at home.

AN [ən] - than.

ANOINT [ə'nɒɪnt] - thrash, hit on the head.

ANY ROAD (UP) ['ɛnɪ rɔud (ɷp)] - anyway.

"ARE" is often omitted, e.g. We (are) glad [wɛɪ glad], they (are) nobody [ðẹɪ 'nɷbdɪ].

ARGUFY ['ạ:gɨfɒɪ] - argue persistently.

ARSE OVER HEAD [ạ:s 'ɔvər ɛd] - head over heels.

AS WAS [əz wɔz] - née. The expression follows the maiden name, e.g. "Mrs Boden, Nellie Wagstaff as was."

ASIDE [ə'sɒɪd]- beside.

AT; HARK AT [ạ:k ət] - listen to.

ATWIXT [ə'twɪkst] - between.

AX MY ARSE [aks (or [ɛks]) mɪ ɑ:s] - a reply to a question, indicating that the speaker cannot, or does not wish to answer.

B

BABY ['bẹɪbɪ] - "This won't buy the baby a new bonnet" - said when time is being wasted.

BACK; A BACK ANSWER [ə bak'ansə] - a rude retort.

BACK AND EDGE [bak ən ɛdʒ] - adamantly, e.g. "Argue back and edge".

BACK END [bak ɛnd] - autumn.

BACK FIRE ['bak fɒɪə] - somewhat less common version of "fire back" (v), see below. E.g. "That's only good enough for backfiring."

BACK; FIRE BACK IT ['fɒɪə bak ɪt] - throw it on to the fire.

BACK WORD [bak wɔd] [bak wɛəd] - to give someone back word - to go back on one's word.

BACK - "I'll knock his back through his front" - an expression of anger.

BACON ['bɐɪkən] - a weak growth of hair, e.g. on a youth's chin, might be referred to as being "like hairs on fourpenny bacon" (fourpenny bacon was cheap and not scraped well).

BADLY ['badlɪ] - ill.

BAG [bag] v. - billow out (of clothes etc.).

BARGE [bɑ:dʒ] - boast. "Barge-pot", a boaster.

BARKLED UP ['bɑ:klɐd ɒp] - encrusted, stuck up with (i.e. forming a bark on). BEETLED UP means the same.

BARM TUB [bɑ:m tʊb] - "Blown up like a barm tub", i.e. fat.

BARROW ['barə] - to set one's barrow down - to "get cracking", get started on the task in hand, e.g. "He could go to Eastwood now if he set his barrow down". See STALL - "set one's stall out" (similar meaning).

BASFORD ['bɐɪsfəd] - to catch a train to Nottingham and get off at Basford - termination of amorous advances before they go too far (Basford is the next stop to Nottingham).

BASTE [bɐɪst] - thrash.

BAT [bat] - n. speed; v. to go fast.

BAT [bat] trans. - blink (the eyes), e.g. "without batting an eyelid", i.e. calmly or cheekily.

BATE [bɐɪt] - stop (of rain).

BATTEN ON TO ['batʔn ɔn tɪu] - said of an insect or metaphorically of a person, and means "to feed on and stick to".

BATTER ['batə] - slope or inclination.

BATTLE TWIG ['batl̩ twɪg] - earwig.

BEAKING ['bi:kɪn] - kissing.

BEESTINGS ['bɐɪstɪnz] - milk of a cow that has just calved.

BEETLED UP ['bɛɪtl̩d ɷp] - encrusted, stuck up with (see BARKLED UP).

BEG [bɛg] - to beg while you've got it in your budget - to ask somebody for something when one is already well provided with that commodity.

BEHINT [bi·'ɪnt] [bi·bɪnt] - behind.

BELIKE [bɪ'lɒɪk] - probably.

BELLOCKS ['bɛləks] - drink greedily.

BELLY ['bɛlɪ] - swell or bulge out.

BELONG [bɪ'lɔŋ] - belong to.

BESOM ['bi:zəm] - a naughty girl.

BETIMES [bɪ'tɒɪmz] - early, in good time.

BETWEEN AND [bɪ'twɛɪn ənd] - before. The expression is commonly used in phrases such as "between now and Christmas". A similar expression can mean "between other jobs", e.g. "I'll do it between and," i.e. "I'll make time for it between other jobs", but in this application "and" usually ends a sentence receiving some stress, and is pronounced [and], which suggests that it might derive from "hand".

BEZZLE ['bɛzl̩] - drink greedily.

BEZZLE BELLY ['bɛzl̩ 'bɛlɪ] - a greedy drinker, a guzzler.

BIDE [bɒɪd] - stay.

BILLY WAP ['bɪlɪ wap] - fool, stupid person, dupe.

BIOUT [bɪ'a:t] - without.

BIRL [bɛ:l] [bə:l] - v. roll, throw (marbles).

BITCH UP [bɪtʃ ɷp] - v. spoil (a piece of work).
n. ['bɪtʃɷp] affectionate equivalent of "bitch".

BLACK [blak] - many proverbial comparisons describe blackness, e.g. "As black as that fireback", "As black as t'devil's forehead", "As black as old Harry", "As black as the hobs of Hell".

BLACKIE ['blakɪ] - blackbird.

BLADE [bli:d] [blɛɪd] - single hair, e.g. "He hadn't got a blade of hair on his head".

BLATHER ['blaðə] - brag, talk foolishly.

BLATHERHEAD ['blaðəjɛd] - noisy fool.

BLETHER ['blɛðə] - cry blubber.

BLIND [blɒɪnd] - v. curse, swear, smell terribly, e.g. "It stinks enough to blind you". adj. "A blind man on a galloping horse would never see that" - i.e. don't worry unnecessarily, it will probably never be noticed.

BLORT [blɔ:t] - bellow loudly, cry.

BLOW OUT [blɔu a:t] - plentiful meal, drinking bout.

BLUB; BLURT [blʊb]; [blə:t] - cry.

BLURR [blə:] - n. + v. mistake, make a mistake.

BOBAW ['bɔbɔ:] - (to very young children) "Don't touch", "don't meddle".

BOBBO ['bɔbɔu] - child's name for a horse.

BOBBY BREECHES ['bɔbɪ ˌbrɪtʃəz] - busybody, know-all, cheeky child or little person, but can apply to adults. See BOBBYCHUCK.

BOBBY CHUCK ['bɔbɪ ˌtʃʊk] - busybody, know-all, cheeky child or little person, but can apply to adults. See BUSY BREECHES.

BOBBY DAZZLER ['bɔbɪ 'dazlə] - something fine or expensive.

BOBBY'S JOB ['bɔbɪz dʒɔb] - a job in which money is earned easily - i.e. "money for jam".

BOD [bɔd] - person of peculiar appearance or in strange clothing, e.g. "He did look a bod".

BODGE [bɔdʒ] - botch, mend clumsily, often of sewing.

BONES - To make old bones [mɛɪ ɛud bɔunz] - to live to an old age.

BOST IT! [bɔst ɪt] BOST YOU! - (i.e. burst). An expression of anger.

BOTTLE ['bɒtl̩] - "No bottle" - no good. "To have your bottle filled" - often said about someone who has been away from home and returns for a short time.

BOWL [bɒuɬ] - child's hoop. Children used to play at "stick and bowl".

BRASS [bras] - money.

BRASS [bras] - "As bold as brass".

BRAUNGE [brɔ:ndʒ] - strut, boast, bear oneself conceitedly.

BREAD [brɛd] - "Thou mun eat thy bread and smell at thy cheese". Said when there is little food available.

BREAD AND CHEESE [brɛd n̩ tʃɛɪz] - opening leaf buds of the hawthorn, often eaten by children in spring.

BREAD AND PULL IT [brɛd n̩ 'pɒlɪt] - dry bread.

BREECHES ['brɪtʃəz] - ladies' underwear.

BRIDE CAKE [brɒɪd keɪk] - wedding cake.

BRIŊK [brɪŋk] - brim (of hat).

BROB [brɔb] - n. + v. prick (an eye out, etc.).

BRŒTHER CHIP ['brɔðə tʃɪp] - identical counterpart (said of persons relating to character). Similar in meaning to the expression "tarred with the same brush", and frequently derogatory. It can be applied to inanimate objects in a non-derogatory sense, e.g. of two matching bowls etc.

BROWBET ['bra:bɛt] - browbeaten.

BROWN STUDY [bra:n 'stɑdɪ] - to be in a brown study - to be thoughtful, musing.

BUBS [bɒbz] - barebubs - nestlings.

BUCKLE INTO ['bɒkl̩ 'ɪntə] - begin eagerly, applied to food; e.g. to buckle into a good dinner.

BUCKLE TO ['bɒkl̩ tɪu] - set oneself to work, work vigorously.

BUG [bɒg] - conceited, vain, self-satisfied.

BULLDOG ['bɒldɒg] - "If he was buried up to the neck in sand a bulldog would ne'er face him" - a saying describing a person's ugliness.

BULLIRAG ['bɒlɪrag] - n. + v. bully with the tongue, scold.

BUM [bɒm] - 1. bailiff [wɛɪ sl̩ ɛɪʔ bɒmz 'kɒmɪn] we shall have the bums coming; 2. "He wants his bum gassing" (i.e. tarring with "gas tar"). This allusion to tarring and feathering expresses contempt; 3. "It's enough to make your bum laugh" - said of anything extremely ridiculous.

BUMMER ['bɒmə] - "boss", foreman, one in authority, or who makes you work.

BUN [bɒn] - 1. bound, constipated; 2. "To have a bun in the oven" - to be pregnant; 3. "I'll give you a bun", "He wants a bun" - endearing term of disapproval.

BURY HOLE ['bɛrɪ ɔul] - child's name for a grave.

BUSY BREECHES ['bizɪ ˌbrɪtʃəz] - busybody (normally a small child), an affectionate term. Anyone bumptious in a lively sort of way (see BOBBY BREECHES).

BUTTON ['bɒtʔn̩] - v. take a rest.

BY [bɪ] - by the time, e.g. [bɪ ðə wə tɛn] 'by the time you were ten'. "It'll be ten past by dinner's out".

C.

CABINER ['kabɪnə] - a very rainy day when one prefers to stay indoors. "It's a cabiner" is often used as a greeting on very rainy days.

CACK [kak] - v. + n. excrete, excrement.

CAFFLE ['kafl̩] - v. + n. cavil, quarrel; a cough.

CAG-MAG ['kag mag] - v. + n. chatter, talk idly; idle talk. (A variant from nearby Brinsley is CUDGE MUDGE ['kɒdʒ mɒdʒ].

CAGE [kẹɪdʒ] - "You want a cage before you get a bod (bird)" - put first things first, i.e. "you must learn to walk before you can run".

CAKEY ['keɪkɪ] - n. + adj. simpleton; simple, foolish.

CAK-HANDED [kak'andəd] - left handed.

CALF-LICK ['kɑ̣:f lɪk] - tuft of hair growing on a human forehead which will not part or lie down.

CALL-CAGE ['kɔ: kẹɪdʒ] - cage containing a bird which is used to lure wild birds onto bird-lime.

CANT [kant] [kɛnt] - n. + v. whine, whining.

CAP [kap] - excel, e.g. "This caps everything".

CAP SCHOOL [kap skɪul] - play truant.

CART [kɑ:t] - If someone has a 'full cart' (metaphorically) he is worth following.

CAT [kat] - "I've heard cats wow before". An expression of ridicule, contempt or disbelief at someone's statement or resolution, sometimes suggesting that their actions will not be equal to their words, or rather similar to "pull the other leg, it's got bells on".

CAT LICK ['kat lɪk] - hasty, incomplete washing.

CATCHED [katʃt] - caught.

CAUSEY ['kɔ:zɪ] - causeway, pavement.

CAUTION ['kɔ:ʃən] - "Eu's a caution" - she is a little rascal. Said affectionately or (less often) disapprovingly of a small child (boy or girl).

CHAMP [tʃamp] - chew.

CHATTERMAG ['tʃatə mag] - v. chatter, gossip.

CHAVEL ['tʃavl̩] - chew (without swallowing).

CHAWL [tʃɔ:l] - pig's face, cheek, or lower jaw.

CHECKY ['tʃɛkɪ] - child's name for a pig. "Checky pig" probably derives from "cheeky pig".

CHEEKS [tʃɛɪks] - the upright stones in a fireplace to which the bars are fixed.

CHELP [tʃɛlp] - v. + n. to answer back rudely; insolence.

CHICKEN-RUN ['tʃɪkɪn rɒn] - cheap seats in the stalls at the old-fashioned cinema.

CHILDER ['tʃɪldə] - children.

CHITTERLINGS ['tʃɪtlɪnz] - pig's entrails.

CHOICE [tʃɔɪs] - adj. careful of, setting great store by, e.g. "She's choice of her carpets".

CHUCKSTONES ['tʃʊkstəunz] - children's game, snobs.

CHUNTER ['tʃʊntə] - grumble.

CLACK [klak] - v. talk, talk scandal, tell tales.

CLAM [klam] - starve for want of food, take (hold of).

CLAMMED [klamd] - starving.

CLAP TRAP [klap trap] - n. a tell tale.

CLART [klɑ̟:t] - daub, make dirty.

CLARTY ['klɑ̟:tɪ] - sticky, dirty, (of cakes, mud etc.).

CLAT [klat] - n. + v. tell-tale, gossip; to tell tales.

CLAT FART [klat fɑ̟:t] - n. + v. tell tale, gossip; to tell tales.

CLEAN [klɛɪn] - entirely.

CLINK [klɪŋk] - strike, e.g. "clink his tab hole".

CLINKER ['klɪŋkə] - something good, e.g. "It's a clinker!".

CLINKING ['klɪŋkɪn] - good.

CLIVUS ['klɪvəs] - strike, e.g. [ɑ:l 'klɪvəs ðɪ wɒn] 'I'll hit you one'.

CLOMP [klɔmp] - walk heavily.

COCK-LOFT ['kɔk lɔft] - garret.

COCKLE ['kɔkl̟] - v. rock, balance unsteadily, e.g. on a step ladder.

CODDLE ['kɔdl̟] - soft boil (egg).

COLLYFOGLING [ˌkalɪ'fɔuglɪn] - cheating.

CORPORATION [kɔ:pə'reɪʃən] - "a good corporation" - a prominent belly.

CORRON ['kɔrən] - currant. Said of persons when they do something silly, e.g. "You corron!".

COT [kɔt] - n. a matted or tangled portion of hair (see LUG), v. mat together.

COTTED ['kɔtəd] - tangled (of hair etc.).

COTTONER ['kɔtnə] - a puzzle, mystery, e.g. "It's a cottoner" (I cannot fathom it).

COTTY ['kɔtɪ] - tangled.

COUCH GRASS ['ku:tʃ gras] - twitch, couch grass, tough, quick-growing grass.

COVE [kɔuv] - cupboard, lean-to; strange person.

COW [ka:] [kɛ:] - "You're like a cow with a spade", i.e. awkward. "There's a cow down". This saying often refers to a family quarrel. It might be said if anyone has not heard from friends, perhaps because they have taken offence. A sick cow would originally have been a family catastrophe.

COW LADY ['ka: ˌleɪdɪ] - ladybird.

CRACK [krak] - "In a crack" - in an instant, in "two ticks of a bug's eyelash" (also a common expression locally).

CRACK [krak] - aristocratic.

CRACK ON [krak ɔn] - tell a secret.

CRACKO ['krakɔu] - "It'll be cracko" - the worst will happen.

CREE [kri:] [krɛɪ] - simmer, boil soft, soften (of rice).

CREEP AND GO [krɛɪp ən gu:] - to make the best of one's way, make the best of a difficult way, go with caution. (See Everyman l. 316, "For kind will creep where it may not go.")[1]

CROCK [krɔk] - earthenware pot.

CRONCH [krɔntʃ] - chew hard.

CROZZLED ['krɔzl̩d] - run together (congealed) and burned.

CUT [kɔt] - canal.

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1. A.C. Cawley (ed), Everyman and Medieval Miracle Plays, London/New York, 1956, reprinted 1962.

D

DAB HAND [dab and] (at doing something) - n. a skilful, experienced person.

DADLE ['deɪdl̩] - waddle or walk unsteadily (of old men or children). To "dadle" someone (often "by the arm") - assist them in walking.

DAG [dag] - n. + v. a thrust; dart, shoot (of pain), thrust at, stab.

DANDER ['dandə] - temper, e.g. "My dander was up".

DARK HOUR [dɑ̟:k'auə] - nightfall.

DEAD [dɛd] (e.g. of purse) - empty. An empty purse might be described as "as dead as a doornail".

DEAL [di:l] [dɛɪl] - "a deal" - many, much.

DERBY NECK ['dɛəbɪ nɛk] - goitre.

DIBED DEAL [dɒɪb di:l] - (a) great deal.

DICK [dɪk] - head louse.

DING [dɪŋ] - strike, e.g. [ɛɪz gɔr ɪ'nɔf tə dɪŋ dɔgz ɪnʔ tɛɪθ wɛɪ] 'he's got enough to ding dogs in the teeth with, i.e. he's got plenty.

DIP [dɪp] - sauce for a pudding, bacon fat.

DITCHED [dɪtʃt] - begrimed (generally of skin).

DO WITH [dɪu wɛɪ] - put up with.

DOB [dɔb] - v. (trans.) put anything down. (intrans.) with "down" - crouch (usually in a game).

DOBBY HORSE ['dɔbɪ ɔs] - wooden horse, (child's toy, or on a roundabout at the fair).

DOCK OFF [dɔk ɔf] - deduct from.

DOFF [dɔf] - put on clothes (contrary to normal usage). Only heard in "Doff it on". "Doffed up", dressed up.

DOG [dɔg] - "Like a dog at a fair", "In and out like a dog at a fair". Restless, darting or hurrying about.

DOG DAISY ['dɔg ˌdeɪzɪ] - field daisy (bellis perennis).

DOG HANGING ['dɔgaŋgɪn] - celebration.

DOG SLEEPING ['dɔg ˌslɛɪpɪn] - half awake.

DON HAND [dɔn and] (at doing something) - n. skilful person.

DORP [dɔ:p] - open (one's mouth).

DRAWERS [drɔ:^{ə}z] - pants. If a woman is described as having "no edge on her drawers" she is not snobbish or pretentious. A snobbish woman has too much "edge" or "lace" on her drawers.

DREE [dri:] - dreary, tedious, drab, e.g. "It's a dree day".

DUMBCLUCK ['dɔmklɔk] - stupid person.

E

EATING DIABETIS ['ɛɪtɪn dɒɪ'bɛɪtɨs] - a disease which persons are said to have if they cannot stop eating.

EAVINGS ['ɛɪvɪnz] - eaves of a house etc.

EDGY ['ɛdʒɪ] - eager, anxious, desirous [ɛu 'dɪdnə sɛɪm 'vɛrɪ 'ɛdʒɪ ə'bæ:t? 'kɔmɪn] 'she didn't seem very eager to come'. Irritable.

EGG [ɛg] - "You could have boiled an egg in my neck-hole" - I was worried, flustered.

EGGS AND BACON [ɛgz ən 'beɪk?n̩] - yellow toadflax.

ELEPHANT'S TRUNK ['ɛlɪfənts 'trɔŋk] - "What the (h)elephant's trunk?" - what the hell?. Interrogative expressing surprise.

END [ɛnd] - a great part of, as in "the best end of" - the biggest part of.

ENTRY ['ɛntrɪ] - entrance or approach to house, narrow passage. Alley or narrow passage between two houses or walls. A common saying describing a bow-legged person is "She'd never stop a pig in an entry".

EYEABLE ['ɒɪəbl̩] - pleasant to the eye, sightly.

EYEHOLES ['ɒɪɔʊlz] - "To be in one's eyeholes" - in one's element, full of joy, happy etc. "I bet Mabel's in her eyeholes now!" (said of a grandmother nursing twin grandchildren). "To be up to the eyeholes" - to be extremely busy or overworked.

EYESIGHT ['ɒɪsɒɪt] - a visible difference, e.g. if two shoes did not match someone might say, "There's an eyesight in it".

F

FADDLE ['fadl̩] - n. + v. FIDDLE FADDLE ['fɪdl ˌfadl̩] n. + v. - a fussy, over-particular person, full of whims, fancies. To be fussy, or over-particular.

FADDY ['fadɪ] - fastidious, over-particular.

FAFF [faf] - to fuss, waste time on trivialities.

FAHLIDAH ['fɑ:lɪdɑ:] - a rigmarole.

FAIR [fɛə] - quite, e.g. "My eyes fair glistened", "I fair forgot".

FAIRIES ['fɛ:rɪz] - floating seeds in the air.

FALDEROL; FALDIDOL ['fɔldərɔl];['fɔldɪdɔl] - trifle, useless ornament.

FALSE FLOOR ['fɔls fluə] - attic floor.

FART [fɑ:t] - "Fart in a bottle" - foolish persons are often compared to this. Similarly "a fart in a fit" or "in a colander".

FASH [faʃ] - adj. angry. v. anger, bother, e.g. "Don't fash yourself".

FAST [fast] - busy, occupied.

FAUSE [fɔ:s] - false, deceitful. "As fause as a cart-load of monkeys".

FEND AND PROVE [fɛnd ən prɪuv (prouv)] - argue "con" and "pro".

FESH [fɛʃ] - similar in meaning to FASH above.

FETTLE ['fɛtl̩] - v. clean, e.g. oneself. "Fettle something up" - put it in order.

FEVER LURK ['fi:və læək] - possibly a corruption of fervour lack. If someone has fever lurk they are idle and loth to work or stir themselves.

FIDDLE ['fɪdl̩] - "To have a face as long as a fiddle" - to look miserable.

FINNICK ['fɪnɪk] - n. one who behaves in a finnicking manner. The adjectival form is "finnicky".

FIREBACK ['fɒɪə bak] - see BACK.

FIRK [fɛ:k] - scratch an itch.

FITS [fɪts] - "To beat someone, or something, into fits" - to be entirely superior, e.g. "This pattern beats the other into fits".

FLAGDAY ['flag,dɛɪ] ['flag ,di:] - "We shall have to have a flagday for him". Said humorously if someone needs money.

FLASH HARRY ['flaʃ 'arɪ] - any man who dresses or behaves in a flamboyant manner.

FLAT SPIN ['flat ,spɪn] - (in a flat spin) - flummoxed, confused.

FLAXEY ['flaksɪ] - linnet, French linnet, yellow-hammer, redpoll.

FLIG [flɪg] - rather too keen, eager, e.g. "To be flig on something". "To be flig with one's money" - to have plenty, or be extravagant.

FLY [flɒɪ] - adj. too eager. Flighty, loose (morally).

FOAL'S FOOT ['fɔulz fɒt] - colt's foot (flower).

FOB [fɔb] - to "fob someone off" with something. To satisfy or disarm someone with a doubtful explanation or an article of doubtful quality. "Fob away" - to hide or secrete (an article).

FOG [fɔg] - first (especially in games). "Fog!", "Fog end" means "my turn first".

FOLDING DRY ['fɛudɪn drɒɪ] - dry enough to be folded.

FOMARD ['fɒməd] (foumart) - "To stink like a fomard", i.e. like a polecat.

FOOTLE ['fɪutl̩] - fool about, do anything in a feeble manner.

FOOTPAD ['fʊt?pad] - footpath.

FORTH [fɔ:θ] - "To come forth" - to come out into the world.

FORTILEGS ['fɔ:tɪlɛgz] - centipede.

FRET [frɛt] - "Fret one's fat" - worry unduly, bother oneself. "I shan't eat your share of the chocolates, you needn't fret your fat".

FRIDGE [frɪdʒ] - v. rub, chafe, irritate.

FRIT [frɪt] - frightened.

FROZ [frɔz] - frozen.

FULL [fʊl] - occasionally used instead of very, e.g. "He's full young".

FULLOCK ['fʊlək] - "With a fullock" - rushing, in a hurry, with gusto, with a jerk.

FUZZACK ['fʊzək] - fool.

FUZZ-BALL ['fʊzbɔ:] - species of fungus (puff-ball). A "frothy" person, with nothing to him.

G

GAB [gab] - n. + v. talk, gossip.

GAD; GADDING ['gadɪn] - a cow bitten by a gadfly was said to be gadding.

GAFFER ['gafə] - n. husband, one in authority. "School gaffer" - headmaster. v. To boss, or be in charge of (somebody); puzzle or beat, e.g. "It fair gaffered me", "It got t'gaffer on me" (i.e. "of me").

GAM [gam] - n. + v. game, sport, fun, play, nonsense, e.g. [ɛɪz 'mɛjɪn gam ɔn mɪ], 'He's making fun of me', [ɛɪz 'ɔunɪ 'gamɪn] 'He's only playing'.

GANZY ['ganzɪ] - wool waistcoat.

GAS [gas] - tar. "Gassin' t' yard" - tarring the yard. See BUM.

GASKIN'S 'UTCHUPS ['gaskɪnz 'ʊtʃʊps] - in Underwood, large potatoes have been called by this name. See story in Chapter 8, p. 362 for an example. A Mr. Gascoigne grew potatoes which were so big that he claimed they could be heard saying to one another, "Hutch up there, I've got no room".

GATIOUS ['geɪʃəs] - pale, ill-looking.

GAWP [gɔ:p] - stare.

GENNEL ['dʒɛnl̩] - long narrow passage between houses.

GET! [gɛt] - "Get away", i.e. I don't believe you.

GET SHUT OF or SHOT OF [ʃʊt] [ʃɔt] - get rid of.

GETTEN ['gɛtʔn̩] - got.

GILLYFLOWER ['dʒɪlɪvə] - wallflower.

GILT [gɪlt] - young sow.

GIVE AGAIN [gɪv ə'gɛn] - thaw, become moist (in cooking), damp or soft.

GIVE (someone) WHAT FOR [gi: wɔtʔ fɔ:] - punish.

GLEAMY ['gli:mɪ] - "It's gleamy this morning", i.e. the sun is bright and watery, but the sunshine will not last.

GLEG [glɛg] - v. + n. glance, peep.

GLENT [glɛnt] - glanced, e.g. [ɛɪ glɛnt atʔ mɪ] 'He glanced at me'.

GLOSS OFF [glɔs ɔf] - get done quickly.

GOB [gɔb] - quantity of spittle, mouth; to "gob" - spit.

GOBBED UP [gɔbd ʊp]- said of holes when they are filled. See Mining Glossary.

GODFREY DANIEL ['gɔdfrɪ 'danjəl] - euphemism for "God-damn".

GOLDY ['gɛudɪ] - goldfinch.

GOLLOP ['gɔləp] - eat hurriedly.

GOOD-COUSINS [gʊd'kʊzn̩z] - on friendly or intimate terms.

GOOD SHUT [gʊd ʃʊt] - good riddance.

GOOD-WOOLED [gʊd wʊld] - plucky, of good mettle.

GOOSE GOG ['gʊz gɔg] - the fruit of the gooseberry.

GOSTERING ['gɔstərɪn] - laughing.

GOWL [gə:l] [ga:l] - substance making the eyes sticky.

GOWLED [ga:ld] - congealed, stuck (of eyes).

GRANDMOTHER ['gran,məðə] - piece of dusty material floating in vinegar, resembling a cobweb.

GREASE ORM ['grɛɪsɔ:m] ['gri:sɔ:m] - sneak, fawn. Equivalent of SLIVE.

GREAT (WITH) [greɪt] [grɛt] - familiar, friendly, intimate (with).

GRINDLESTON ['grɪnd|stən] - grindstone.

GRIZZLE ['grɪz|] - grumble.

GRIZZLER ['grɪzlə] - grumbler.

GROWING DAY ['grəuɪn di:] - a day with intermittent rain and sunshine. Often used as a greeting.

GUIDER ['gɒɪdə] - tendon, muscle, sinew.

GUINY ['gɒɪnɪ] - an expletive, e.g. "Guiny", "My guiny!".

BY GUM [bɒɪ gʊm] - mild oath.

BY GUY [bɒɪ gɒɪ] - mild oath.

GUZZLE ['gʊz|] - drink.

H

HACKING AND CHOPPING ['akɪn ən 'tʃopɪn] - arguing.

HACKLES ['aklz] - to set someone's hackles up, i.e. annoy someone, "set their back up".

HACKLING AND KEFFLING ['aklɪn ən 'kɛflɪn] - coughing.

HAFFLE ['afl̩] - hesitate, speak confusedly, stammer, quibble.

HAFFLE AND CAFFLE ['afl̩ ən 'kafl] - argue, shilly shally.

HAGGED [agd] - haggard, worn out.

HAGGLING ['aglɪn] - arguing.

HAND'S CHARE ['andz ˌtʃɛ:] - light household work, odd job, e.g. [ɛu 'nɪvə dɷz ə andz tʃɛ:] 'She never does a hand's chare'.

HAND'S TURN ['andz tə:n] - similar to above, "I shan't do a hand's turn for you".

HANDY ['andɪ] - officious.

HAPPEN ['apn̩] ['apm̩] - perhaps.

HAPPY ['apɪ] - "As happy as a pig in muck." "As happy as a dead bod (bird)."

OLD HARRY [ɛud 'arɪ] - the devil. "As black as old Harry." "As mad as old Harry." To lie "like old Harry".

HASH (or ash) [aʃ] - "Settle one's hash" - overcome a person completely.

HAVE OVER [av 'ɔvə] - talk over, discuss the character of.

HAWK [ɔ:k] [hɔ:k] - carry. "He'll have to hawk it back." - carry it back. "I hawked it all t'way back."

HEAGE and Ripley, Crich and Fritchley, all begins with A - local variant of the well-known formula for a verbal puzzle: "London, Leicester, York and Chester, all begins with A".

HEAP [ɛɪp] - "Knock all of a heap" - frighten, astonish, upset.

HEELS [ɛɪlz] [i:lz] - "Make your heels crack" - make haste.

HELL [ɛl] [hɛl] - "There'll be hell to pop" - i.e. there'll be hell to pay. An expression of warning.

HEN [ɛn] [hɛn] - restless persons are sometimes described as being "like an ill-sitting hen".

HERN [ɛ:n] [ə:n] - hers.

HET [ɛt] - past tense of "heat" in most contexts.

HING [ɪŋ] - hang.

HISN ['ɪzn̩] - his (absolute possessive pronoun).

HOBBLY ['ɔblɪ] - rough (of a road).

HOB-NOBBING [ɔb 'nɔbɪn] - mixing with (of people).

HODGE [ɔdʒ] - cow's stomach.

HOLL [ɔl] (hurl) - throw.

HOME [ɔm] - "Go home" - die.

HOMMOCK ['ɔmək] - clumsy person, especially tall slatternly or romping girl.

HOMMOCKING ['ɔməkɪn] - clumsy, awkward.

HOOK [ɪuk] - hand. The expression "Take your hook" [tɛɪ ðɪ ɪuk] means "get off with you", go.

HOPPER ['ɔpə] - basket.

HOPPIT ['ɔpɪt] - hovel, or untidy house.

HORSE Hoss-todding ['ɔs ˌtɔdɪn] - the practice of gathering horse droppings for use as manure.

HORSE-BLOB ['ɔs blɔb] - marsh marigold.

HOSSEGG ['ɔsɛg] - actual meaning unknown but occurs in the expression [ðə wants ə '(h)ɔsɛg 'ɔlɪn at ðɪ] 'You want a hossegg throwing at you'.

HOSSITY ['ɔsɪtɪ] - strange or comical person, e.g. "a funny hossity". Similar in meaning to HOTCHEL below.

HOTCHEL ['ɔtʃəl] - v. walk in an awkward manner, limp.
n. strange or comical person, "A funny hotchel".

HOTTLE ['ɔtl̩] - finger-stall.

HOUSE [a:s] [ə:s] [æ:s] [ɛ:s] - or "house-place". Living room as opposed to parlour (state room). "I'll go to our house!" [ɑl gɷ tə a:r a:s] expression of surprise.

HOUSE-SIDE [æ:s sɒɪd] - as big as a house-side, e.g. [ɑ: ʃəd skɛlp ðɪ ɪf ðə wər əz bɪg əz ə æ:s sɒɪd] 'I should thrash you if you were as big as a house-side'.

HURKLE ['ə:kl̩] - crouch, cower, stoop, squat, draw together.

HUTCH UP [ɵtʃ ɵp] - move up.

I

IDLE BACK ['ɒɪdl̩ bak] - a lazy person.

IDLE JACK ['ɒɪdl̩ dʒak] - a lazy person.

IKEY ['ɒɪkɪ] - uppish.

ITCH SMARTING ['ɪtʃ ˌsmɑ̝:tɪn] - v. itching, e.g. "My head was itch smarting".

J

JAG [dʒag] - n. drinking bout, pub crawl, e.g. "He's out on a jag". n. or v. jerk or jolt.

JALLOP ['dʒɔləp] - medicine.

JAUM (jamb) [dʒɔ:m] - door post.

JAW [dʒɔ:] - cheek, insolence.

JIGGERED ['dʒɪgəd] - exhausted.

JIMMY NADGER ['dʒɪmɪ 'nadʒə] - sparrow.

JIMRAGS ['dʒɪmragz] - small fragments, tatters.

JINTY ['dʒɪntɪ] - wren.

JITTY ['dʒɪtɪ] - passage between houses or gardens, usually shorter than a twitchell. Possibly a corruption of "jetty".

JOE SOAP [dʒəu səup] - a proverbial dupe: "Do you take me for Joe Soap?" (i.e. for a fool).

JOLE [dʒəul] - hit, knock, bump.

JONNOCK ['dʒɔnək] - fair, e.g. "It ain't jonnock" - it isn't fair.

JOTTINGS ['dʒɔtɪnz] - "That would do for the jottings" - said of anything that can be taken with a pinch of salt, i.e. regarded as doubtful.

JUSTLY ['dʒəstlɪ] - quite, e.g. "I don't justly know".

JUT [dʒɔt] - push (usually another person).

K

KALE [kɛɪl] [keɪl] - n. turn, e.g. "I shan't miss my kale". v. beat. "He's kaled me" - he's beaten me.

KATER-SWISH ['keɪtə swɪʃ] - askew.

KAY-LEGGED [kẹɪ lɛgd] - knock-kneed.

KEEP COMPANY WITH [kɛɪp 'kɔmpnɪ wɛɪ] somebody, i.e. have a sweetheart.

KEG(GY)-HANDED ['kɛgɪ 'andəd] - left-handed. For KEGGY-LEGGED, see below.

KEGGY-LEGGED ['kɛgɪ lɛgd] - knock-kneed, e.g. [ɛɪz 'kɛgɪ lɛgd θrɪu 'wɔkɪn ɪn ə tɪu fɔt sɛɪm] 'He's keggy-legged through working in a two foot seam'.

KISSING BUSH ['kɪsɪn bɑʃ] - Christmas mistletoe.

KIT BRUSH ['kɪt brɑʃ] - scrubbing brush.

KITCHEN COMPANY ['kɪtʃən 'kɔmpnɪ] - if visitors remain in the kitchen instead of entering the living room, the hostess might say, "Are you going to be kitchen company?"

KNOCKER ['nɔkə] - "Dressed up to the knocker" - dressed up in one's best clothes (see NINES).

L

LACE [lẹɪs] - thrash. A "lacing" - a thrashing.

LADDY, BY LADDY [bɒɪ 'ladɪ] - By our Lady.

LADER ['leɪdə] - ladle.

LAG [lag] - last (especially in games).

LALL OUT [lal æ:t] - sing out.

LAM [lam] - beat.

LAMBING STORM ['lamɪn stɔ:m] - storm of hail or snow in April.

LAME TALE [lẹɪm tẹɪl] - weak excuse.

LAP [lap] - wrap up (of clothes etc.).

LAPPED UP IN [lapt ɒp ɪn] - much enamoured of, so fond of that one is blind to failings.

LAREM ['lɑ:rəm] - alarm clock.

LARROPING ['larəpɪn] - v. + adj. running; big.

LAUNDER ['lɔ:ndə] - spouting, drainpipe on house (originally a mining term).

LEAF [lɛɪf] [li:f] - winter layer of fat of a pig or poultry.

LEARN [læən] [lɔn] - learn, teach.

LEAST SAID SOONEST MENDED - proverb meaning quarrels mend best when little is said.

LEATHERED ['lɛðəd] - tired, e.g. "I'm about leathered" - "I've had enough".

LEATHER FACED ['lɛðəˌfẹɪst] - ugly (of persons).

LEG [lɛg] - "Give someone a leg up" - assist (socially).

LEG [lɛg] - "Put the best leg forward" - make a great effort.

LERKY ['læəkɪ] ['lɛ:kɪ] - game similar to hide and seek.

LET DAYLIGHT INTO [lɛʔ 'di:lɛɪt 'ɪntə] - scold, tell off.

LET ON [lɛt ɔn] - divulge, make known.

LIEVE [lɛɪv] [li:v] - "I'd as lieve ..." - I'd just as soon ...

LIEVER ['lɛɪvə] ['li:və] - rather.

LIG [lɪg] - lie (i.e. tell a lie).

LIGGER ['lɪgə] - liar.

LIKE [lɒɪk] -
1. Often used expletively, completely redundant or with the meaning "sort of", e.g. [a'watə 'mɪdlɪn lɒɪk] 'How are you?' 'Middling, like'.
2. To be "something like" - to be any good, any use.
3. Like as not [lɒɪk əz nɔt] - probably.

LINTY ['lɪntɪ] - idle, lazy.

LOB [lɔb] - throw.

LOBBY ['lɔbɪ] - big marble.

LORP [lɔ:p] - spread thickly (of butter etc.).

LUG [lʊg] - to tug (at hair) with a comb.

LUGS [lʊgz] - tangled or matted portions of hair (see COT).

M

MADE UP [meɪd ʊp] - if something, e.g. a sink, is blocked, it is said to be "made up" with whatever is blocking it. The expression can be applied to a throat which feels blocked.

MAG [mag] [mɛg] - grumble, nag.

MAKE WEIGHT ['mɛk weɪt] - n. + v. (use) something small to complete the pound (when buying goods etc.).

MAKE WORK WITH [mɛɪ wɔk {wɪ / wɛɪ}] - damage, injure (a thing), upset (a person)

MAMMAM ['mamam] - grandmother.

MANK ABOUT [maŋk ə'bæ:t] - play tricks.

MARD, MARDY ['mɑ:d(ɪ)] - v. to spoil (a person).

MARD-ARSE ['mɑ̟:d ɑ̟:s] - spoiled person, one who cries easily.

MARDY ['mɑ̟:dɪ] - spoiled, given to crying.

MARRED [mɑ̟:d] - spoiled, given to crying.

MASH [maʃ] - tea is always "mashed", never "brewed". "A fine bag o' mashin" = a fine kettle of fish.

MATCH STALE ['matʃ st̪eɪl] - used match.

MAUNGE [mɔ:ndʒ] - whine, complain.

MAUNGY ['mɔ:ndʒɪ] - spoiled, cross, peevish, ill-tempered.

MAY BLOB ['meɪ blɔb] - marsh marigold.

MEGRIM ['mi:grəm] - n. + v. a wry face; pull faces.

MEND [mɛnd] - to "mend the fire" - put coal on it.

MESTER ['mɛstə] - master, husband, Mr., man (respectfully).

MEZZLES ['mɛz̪l̪z] - measles.

MIDDEN ['mɪdɪn] - ash-pit, earth closet.

MIDDENMEN ['mɪdɪn mɛn] - men who clear the ash-pits.

MIDGE [mɪdʒ] - gnat.

MIND [mɒɪnd] - remember, remind.

MITHER ['maɪðə] ['mɒɪðə] ['mɔɪðə] - whine, complain.

MITHERED - smothered, as with heat.

MITHERING - close (weather).

MO [məu] - moment, e.g. [ɛud ə məu] 'hold a mo''; wait a moment.

MOGGY ['mɔgɪ] - mouse.

MOIL [mɔɪl] - labour.

MONEY FOR JAM ['mɔnɪ fə dʒam] - money earned with little effort.

MONKEY RUN ['mɔŋkɪ rɔn] - parade of young people. Once a popular walk for young bloods when they were "clicking" (i.e. making friends) at the weekend.

MOOLY COW ['mɪulɪ kə] - child's name for a cow.

MOP STALE ['mɔp stę̣ɪl] - mop stick.

MOUD (mold)-HEAP ['mɛudɛɪp] - mole hill.

MOUDIWARP (moldiwarp) ['mɛudɪwa:p] - mole. A person can be described as wrapped up, or curled up, like a moldiwarp.

MOUSE [ma:s] [mæ:s] - to "have a mouse in the trap" - to be pregnant.

MUCK SPREADING ['mɔkˌspredɪn] - gossiping.

MUCK-SWEAT ['mɔk swɛt] - profuse perspiration (all of a muck-sweat).

MUG [mɔg] - to "mug" one's "sen", or to "mug" one's "sen" over something. Drink, eat.

MULLY CRUSH ['mɔlɪ krɔʃ] - "I'll mully crush you" - a jocular threat.

MULLY GRUBS ['mɔlɪ grɔbz] - stomach-ache, colic, fit of ill-temper.

MUMPING ['mɔmpɪn] - thrashing.

MUMPY ['mɔmpɪ] - sulky, gloomy, depressed.

MUN [mɔn] - must.

MUNNA ['mɔnə] - must not.

MUSS [mɔs] - mouth.

MUTTER AND CUTTER ['mɔtə ən 'kɔtə] - mumble and grumble.

N

NADGER ['nadʒə] - sparrow (also "Jimmy nadger").

NAGNAILS ['nagnę̣ɪlz] - as hard as "nagnails".

NATION ['neɪʃən] - an expletive, e.g. "Nation well do this ..." "A nation sight better ..."

NAY [neɪ] [nę̣ɪ] [nɛɪ] - no (usually emphatic).

NAZZI ['nazɪ] - nasty (tempered).

NEAR [nɪə] - mean, niggardly.

NEDNA ['nɛdnə] - need not.

NE'ER [nɪə] - never, e.g. "Ne'er mind", "Ne'er cast a clout till t'may is out".

NESH [nɛʃ] - tender (of persons).

NIGHT HOWLER [nɒɪt'aulə] - person who stays up late.

NINES [nɒɪnz] - "Dressed up to t'nines" (see KNOCKER), dressed up in one's best clothes.
"Off on t'nines to Nottingham" - off quickly, or like a shot.

NIPPER ['nɪpə] - child.

NOBBUT ['nɔbət] - only.

NOGGIN ['nɔgɪn] - lump (of cheese etc.). Piece of bread which has overflowed the baking pan.

NON [nɔn] - not, e.g. [ɪʔs nɔn lɛɪt] 'It's not light'.

NOR [nə] - than, e.g. [nɔu 'fɔðə nə 'wæswɔd] 'No further than Westwood'.

NORP [nɔ:p] - fool. [ðɑ:t ə grɛʔ sɔf nɔ:p] 'You are a great soft norp'.

NOUGHTER ['nɔutə] - a pretentious person who really has no money.

NUISANCE MAN ['nɪusn̩s man] - pest control man.

O

O'ER [oə] [uə] - over.

O'ER AND ABOVE [oər ən ə'bɔv] - "Not o'er and above" - not better than he (she) (it) should be.

OF [ɔn] [ɔv] - used instead of "for" in "waiting of". Used instead of "in" in "of a morning" - i.e. (regularly) in the morning.

OLD; THE OLD ONE [ðɛud ən] - the devil.

OMOST ['ɔməst] - almost.

ON [ɔn] - of (especially before a vowel). [av 'ɛnɪ ɔn jə 'ɛnɪ ɔn jə] 'Have any of you any on you?'

ORMING ['ɔ:mɪn] - large and ungainly, e.g. [ə grɛt bɪg 'ɔ:mɪn ri:k] 'A great big orming rake' (Informant F).

ORTS (AND SLARTS) [ɔ:t̪s] [slɑ:t̪s] - remainders of food. The two words are not usually found together. Orts refers mainly to remainders, slarts to scraps.

OW [ɛu] [ou] - she.

OWN [ɔun] - recognise, e.g. [kan jɔun ɪt] 'Can you recognise it?'

P

PAD [pad] - road, path, garden path.

PADDYWACK ['padɪwak] - gristle in meat.

PANCHEON ['panʃən] - large bowl used in baking bread, or by colliers for washing off pit dirt.

PASH [paʃ] - crush, infatuation, to have a "pash" on someone.

PEDIGREE ['pɛdɪgrɛɪ] - long story, rigmarole.

PEEPING AND PIMING about ['pi:pɪn ən 'pɒɪmɪn] - standing about suspiciously. Past tense of "peep" = pept [pɛpt].

PEG [pɛg] - tooth (child's).

PENNY MOON ['pɛnɪ mɪun] - full moon.

PERK [pɛ:k] [pə:k] - n. + v. perch, seat, sit.

PETTY ['pɛtɪ] - lavatory.

PICK AT [pɪk at] - find fault with.

PICKTIPY ['pɪktɪpɒɪ] - turn a somersault, misbehave, climb, run about (often of children).

PIDDLEBED ['pɪdl̩bɛd] - dandelion.

PIDDLIN ['pɪdlɪn] - trifling.

PIG COTE or PIG COURT ['pɪg kɔut] - place for keeping pigs (most households kept a pig fifty years ago). To "kill" one's "pig" - disappoint, dismay.

PIGGLE ['pɪgl̩] - pick at (with fingers).

PIGGLIN ['pɪglɪn] - trifling.

PIKE [pɒɪk] - peep, spy on courters etc. A Peeping Tom is said to "pike courting couples".

PINCHERS ['pɪntʃəz] - pincers, tweezers.

PINK [pɪŋk] - "I'm in the pink" - i.e. feeling fine.

PIPPIN ['pɪpɪn] - pail or tub for eggs etc. Large cylindrical earthenware vessel.

PISS LIKE A STATION HORSE [pɪs lɒɪk ə 'steɪʃən ɔs] - an expression referring to the horses formerly employed at the railway stations. The expression can be used after "I could ..." to express an urgent wish to relieve oneself.

PISSIMIRE ['pɪsɪmɒɪə] - ant.

PLEACH [pli:tʃ] [plɛɪtʃ] - cut and intertwine (a hedge).

PLUM [plɔm] - sane, sound of mind, e.g. [ɛɪz nɔn plɔm] 'He's not right'.

POCKETS ['pɔkɪts] - if persons are extremely friendly with each other they are described as being in each other's pockets.

POKE [pɔuk] - "Like a pig in a poke" - said of things which are bundled up. "It's like buying a pig in a poke" - i.e. like buying something unseen. Poke = sack.

POKEY ['pɔukɪ] - small, confined.

POL THOMPSON [pɔl 'tɔmsn̩] - work, polish - e.g. "Give it some Pol Thompson". See STICK.

PONCH [pɔntʃ] - stick for washing.

PONCH TUB - tub in which ponch was worked to pound the clothes clean.

POSH [pɔʃ] - pour (with rain).

POSSET ['pɔsət] - vomit, throw up (of babies).

POSSETING ['pɔsətɪn] - given to vomiting.

POTAWKY ['pɔtɔ:kɪ] - cheap, crude, ugly (possibly from pot hawking).

POTTER ['pɔtə] - to "potter" the fire, i.e. poke it.

POTTERING ['pɔtərɪn] - slight, insignificant.

PUCKER ['pɔkə] - n. state of fright, confusion.

PULL UP TREES [pɔl ɔp trɛɪz] - to do something outstanding, noteworthy.

PUM [pɔm] - thrash, beat, pommel.

PURGE [pɛ:dʒ] - ask persistently (usually to someone's annoyance).

PUTHER ['pɔðə] - n. + v. cloud of smoke or dust, disturbance; pour (as smoke).

Q

QUALIFIED ['kwɔlɪfɒɪd] - fit, able, competent, e.g. [ɛuz 'kwɔlɪfɒɪd tə seɪ ɛut] 'She's qualified to say anything'. (sarcastic).

QUARTERN ['kwɔ:tən] - quarter pint (of liquid).

QUAWK [kwɔ:k] - squawk.

QUEEDLE ['kwi:dl̩] ['kwɛɪdl̩] - totter, fidget (with one's feet).

QUEEDLING - unable to stand still, tottering.

QUICK [kwɪk] - a young thorn plant for making hedges, also the hedge itself.

QUINDARIUM [kwɪn'dɛərɪəm] - fit of confusion.

R

RADDLE ['radɬ] - red ochre, or oxide of iron, used for marking.

RAKER ['rẹɪkə] - n. + v. lump of coal to last the night. ['astə 'rẹɪkəd tɔm] 'Have you rakered, Tom?' i.e. put the raker on.

RAMBUNKTIOUS [ram'bɔŋkʃəs] - showing off, big-headed, conceited.

RAMMEL ['ramɬ] - rubbish.

RAMPER ['rampə] - old Roman road, raised road.

RAN-DAN [ran dan] - ran-tan, loud noise, knocking.

RAPE AND SCRAPE [reɪp ən skreɪp] - scrape together.

RAPS (rops) [raps] - intestines.

RARE UP [rɛ:r ɷp] - stand up straight and fling one's head back in a haughty, overbearing manner.

RASPER ['raspə] - said of anything good or big, a term of approval, e.g. "It's a rasper!"

RASPING ['raspɪn] - good.

RAT [rat] - v. tell tales, divulge incriminating information, "split" (on) somebody.

RATCHEL ['ratʃəl] - rough, stony ground.

RATTLE ['ratɬ] - to "rattle" someone's jacket - a threat.

RATTON ['ratən] - rat.

RAUM [rɔ:m] - stretch, sprawl.

RAUM AND SCRAUM [skrɔ:m] - stretch, sprawl.

RAUMING ['rɔ:mɪn] - stretching, sprawling. "A great rauming chap".

RAUNGING ['rɔ:ndʒɪn] ['ra:ndʒɪn] ['rɛ:ndʒɪn] - rushing about noisily, romping. Cows were said to be "raunging" when they were in season and needed rounding up.

REASTY ['ri:stɪ] - tainted (of meat).

RECKLING, RITLING ['rɪtlɪn] - youngest or smallest in a brood or litter. Often applied to weak people.

RETCH [rɛtʃ] - reach, stretch.

RICKTA DICKA ['rɪktə 'dɪkə] - adjective expressing appreciation - describing something good. It can be used as a noun.

RIFT [rɪft] - belch.

RIGGED UP [rɪgd ɒp] - dressed up.

RIGGING ['rɪgɪn] - scaffolding (round a house).

RIP ALONG ['rɪp əˌlɔŋ] - move with great speed.

RIP OUT [rɪp æ:t] - utter impetuously.

RIP STITCH ['rɪp stɪtʃ] - one who is destructive of clothes.

ROAD [rəud] - way, direction, e.g. "that road", 'that way', "any road", 'any way', "in the road", 'in the way'.

ROANED [rəund] - spirited. "Good roaned", 'high spirited'.

ROAR [rɔ:] - cry, weep (not necessarily with noise).

ROBIN ['rɔbɪn] - if a person is having bad luck, he might say, "I think I've killed a robin", (or trod on a toad).

ROOM [rɪum] - best sitting room.

RORT [rɔ:t] (AND BLORT [blɔ:t]) - roar, cry loudly, e.g. [ɛu wə 'rɔ:tɪn ən 'blɔ:tɪn] 'she was "rorting" and "blorting"'.

RUCK [rɔk] - n. + v. crease, crumple.
In the ruck [ɪn ðə rɔk] - mixed up with everything else, e.g. if a ball of wool was lost: "Oh, it'll be in the ruck".

RUMSTICKUBUM ['rɔmstɪkəˌbɔm] - children's game (see Chapter 7, p. 300).

RUNLET ['rɔnlət] - small stream, water drain.

RUTTLE ['rɔtl̩] - breathe with a rattling sound.

S

SAD [sad] - heavy (of food, pastry etc.).

SAID [sɛd] - to "be said" - be dictated to, be obedient.

SALLET ['salɪt] - n. blow, e.g. [a:l gɪ ðɪ ə 'salɪt əʔ spɪd əʔ jɛd] 'I'll hit you at the side of the head'.

SAM [sam] - into. "Get stuck into" - to be eagerly occupied with.

SAM [sam] - proverbial dupe (like Joe Soap), e.g. "Do you take me for Sam?", i.e. a fool.

SAVATION [seɪ'veɪʃən] - saving, economy.

SAWM [sɔ:m] - walk lazily, idle about, loiter.

SAWNEY ['sɔ:nɪ] - fool, simpleton.

SCAN; SKEN [skɛn] - squint; glance.

SCHOLARD ['skɔləd] - scholar.

SCHOOL GAFFER ['skɪul ˌgafə] - headmaster.

SCOPPERIL ['skɔpᵊrəl] - lively, restless person or animal. "Like a scopperil" - nimble; speedily or readily.

SCRANNY ['skranɪ] - thin; crazy, mad.

SCRAPE [skreɪp] - shave.

SCRAT [skrat] - scratch. "Scrat about" - potter about.

SCRATCHINGS ['skratʃɪnz] - bits left when "leaf" fat is rendered down; enjoyed with salt.

SCRATTIN ['skratɪn] - miserly, small, mean, e.g. a scrattin' bit.

SCRAUM [scrɔ:m] - (RAUM AND SCRAUM) - stretch, reach.

SCRAWK [skrɔ:k] - n. + v. scratch, mark.

SCREET [skrɛɪt] - screech.

SCROOCH [skru:tʃ] - crouch, cower.

SCRUMPING ['skrɔmpɪn] - orchard robbing.

SCUFT [skɔft] - scurry, e.g. of a dog through a hedge.

SEAM [si:m] - lard.

SEAM RENT [si:m rɛnt] [sɛɪm rɛnt] - "I'll knock thy seam rent" - I'll hit you.

SEC, SEG [sɛk], [sɛg] - short for second (2nd), especially in games.

SECK [sɛk] - sack.

SELLED [sɛld] - sold.

SEN [sɛn] - self.

SERRY ['sɛrɪ] - term of address to men. Corruption of "sirrah"?

SERVE OUT [sɑ:v æ:t] - be revenged on.

SET FAST [sɛt fast] - at a loss, without resources, stuck (colloquially), e.g. He's never set fast for anything.

SETTLER ['sɛtlə] - something taken after a meal, e.g. a cup of tea.

SHIFT [ʃɪft] - change clothes, shoes etc., e.g. "get shifted" - change your clothes; or manage, provide, earn one's living, e.g. "shift for oneself"; "make shift" - manage. Move.

SHIMMY ['ʃɪmɪ] - chemise.

SHOES [ʃɪuz] - "If your shoes squeak they're not paid for" - a common saying.

SHOMMOCK ['ʃɔmək] - walk with a shambling gait, slouch.

SHOMMOCKS ['ʃɔməks] - feet, e.g. [ʃɪft ðɪ grɛt 'ʃɔməks] 'Shift your great shommocks'.

SHOT [ʃɔt] SHUT [ʃɔt] - "Get shot of", "get shut of" - get rid of. "Like shot" - quickly.

SHOVEL ['ʃɔvl̩] - "That's before you bought your shovel" - common saying meaning 'That's more than you bargained for'. Often an expression of surprise at a person's acquisition, e.g. if someone appeared unexpectedly in a new fur coat.

SHULL [ʃʊl] - v. shell (peas).

SHUT [ʃʊt] - see SHOT.

SILE [sɒɪl] (down) - pour down (of rain).

SILVER FISH ['sɪlvə fɪʃ] - small, white-backed insects.

SIN [sɪn] - since; ago, e.g. "about fifty two year sin"; "you asked a bit sin".

SIPE [sɒɪp] - percolate slowly, ooze, trickle, leak, drip.

SITHEE ['sɪðɪ] - "look you", "look here".

SKELP [skɛlp] - thrash, strike.

SKERRIK ['skɛrɪk] - morsel, scrap.

SKINCH [skɪntʃ] - v. stint, limit, be parsimonious and stingy.

SKIVING ['skɒɪvɪn] - n. sliver, thin slice (of cake, cheese, etc.).

SLARTS [slɑ̟:t͡ʔs] - scraps of food. The adjective "slarting", e.g. in the phrase "a slarting bit", means "scrappy".

SLAVER ['slavə] - boast.

SLECK [slɛk] - n. small coal, slack.
v. 1. slake (of thirst) e.g. [ðɪz nɛut lɒɪk tɛɪ fə 'slɛkɪn ə θɔst] 'There's nothing like tea for slaking a thirst'.
2. "sleck" a fire - make it burn more slowly, put "sleck" on it.

SLEER [slɪə] [slɛə] - calumniate, insult.

SLINK [slɪŋk] - v. loiter about, idle.

SLIVE [slɒɪv] - sneak, idle (sometimes).

SLIVING ['slɒɪvɪn] - sneaky, sly.

SLORM [slɔ:m] - smear.

SLORP [slɔ:p] - make a noise with the lips when eating.

SLOSHING ['slɔʃɪn] - kissing.

SLOT [slɔt] - hit.

SLOTHER ['slɑðə] - slide, slip.

SLOTTEN ['slɔʔn̩] - choke, suffocate.

SLUDGE BUMP ['slɔdʒ bɔmp] - dirty drudge, one who "sucks the mop", i.e. does the work for others.

SLUR [slɛə] - slide on ice, skate.

SMITE [smɔɪt] - small particle.

SMOCK-RAVEL ['smɔkˌravl̩] - disappoint, puzzle, perplex.

SNAG [snag] - n. + v. quarrel.

SNAGGLIN ['snaglɪn] - arguing.

SNAP [snap] - food.

SNEAP [sni:p] [snɛɪp] - embarrass, humiliate, scold.

SNECK [snɛk] - n. + v. latch (of a door).

SNIDE, SNIDED [snɒɪd], ['snɒɪdəd] (up with) - covered (with), abounding (in).

SNOBS [snɔbz] - game of five stones (knucklestones).

SNORE [snɔ:] (like a stuck pig) - simile for a loud snorer.

SNUFT [snɔft] - extinguish (a light).

SOCK [sɔk] - hit, beat.

SOFT [sɔft] - simple-minded, silly, used in several similes, e.g. "as soft as galouk [gə'lɔuk]", "as soft as grease", "softer than grease". "If it's soft it's fat, if it's hard it's that" - saying distinguishing between obesity and pregnancy.

SORT [sɔ:t] - "my sort" - just what will suit me.

SOSS [sɔs] - fall or sit down heavily.

SOUGH [sɔf] - covered drain (originally a mining term).

SPELCH [spɛltʃ] - n. + v. chip.

SPELL [spɛl] - splinter (to light fires with).

SPINK, SPINKY [spɪŋk], ['spɪŋkɪ] - chaffinch.

SPLAUGE [splɔ:dʒ] - boast.

SPLAWD [splɔ:d] - show, ostentation.

SPLUTHER ['splɔðə] - talk incoherently.

SPROTTLE ['sprɔtɬ] - sprawl, kick about.

SPRUT [sprɔt] - sprout.

SQUAB [skwɔb] - couch without arms.

SQUAT [skwat] - quiet, hidden, secret.

SQUAT [skwat] - squirt, splash (with water, mud etc.).

SQUINT [skwɪnt] - v. splash, squirt.

STAIRHOLE ['stɪərɔul] - cupboard under staircase. A common punishment used to be to put a child in the stairhole.

STALE [stẹɪl] - handle (of brush, etc.).

STALL [stɔ:ɬ] - v. satisfy, satiate, stuff. To set one's "stall" out - get things organised, make a resolute attempt, e.g. set one's stall out to pass an examination.

STARNEL ['stɑ:nl̩] - starling.

STAVE OFF [sti:v] [stẹɪv] - keep away, e.g. a cold.

STICK [stɪk] - "Give it some stick", i.e. put some hard work into it (see THRASH and POL THOMPSON).

STINGO ['stɪŋgou] - strong drink.

STINKING NANNY ['stɪŋkɪn'nanɪ] - common ragwort.

STODGE [stɔdʒ] - mix thickly; walk with thick, heavy steps.

STRAG [strag] - stray, e.g. a stray dog.

STRAIGHT [strẹɪt] - to "be straight" - to be even (with someone), i.e. to get revenge or fulfil an obligation.

STUCK PIG [stɔk pɪg] - to snore or squeal like a stuck pig, i.e. loudly.

STURNEL ['stə:nl̩] - starling.

SUCK THE MOP [sɔk ðə mɔp] - do the drudgery, or housework. (see SLUDGEBUMP).

SUCKING DUCK ['sɔkɪn dɔk] - "He was standing there like a sucking duck" - like a "stuffed duck", i.e. foolishly.

SUET PUDDING ['sɪuɪt 'pʊdɪn] - a person sitting idly or stupidly is said to be sitting "like a suet pudding".

SWADS [swɔdz] - pea pods.

SWATH [swɔθ] - (to be in a swath) - hurry.

SWEAR [sweə] - a cat "swears" when it growls or hisses.

SWEARING ISAAC ['sweərɪn 'ɒɪzək] - any person who swears frequently.

SWEG [swɛg] - n. + v. drink.

SWILKER ['swɪlkə] - v. said of water or any liquid undulating in a cup or bucket.

SWITHER ['swɪðə] (transitively) - throw forcibly.

SWITHER ['swɪðə] (intransitively) - move with considerable velocity, e.g. "He went swithering round t'room." "It come swithering over here."

SYCOCK ['sɒɪkɔk] - missel thrush.

T

TAB [tab] - tongue (in shoe), ear.

TAB HOLE [tab ɔul] - ear.

TACK [tak] - n. stuff (depreciative).

TACKIN END ['takɪn 'ɛnd] - cobbler's end of waxed thread.

TACKLE [takl̩] - medicine.

TAKE TO ['tɛktɪu] - scold, punish.

TANK [taŋk] - v. thrash.

TANKED [taŋkt] - drunk.

TANTADLIN [tan'tadlɪn] - trivial.

TANTAFLIN [tan'taflɪn] - trivial.

TANTLE ['tantl̩] - walk slowly or feebly, dawdle, totter as a child.

TANTOOZLE [tan'tu:zl̩] - thrash, beat.

TASSEL ['tasl̩] - an affectionate term for a mischievous child (boy or girl) or for a baby who needs much attention.

TA-TA [tatɑ:] - a walk (usually referring to a child). To lead someone a ta-ta, i.e. to give them a difficult time.

TATTY ['tatɪ] - ragged, dishevelled.

TAZZLE ['taz̩l̩] - v. tangle, twist, knot.

TEA BELLY [ti:'bɛlɪ] - a person who is fond of tea and drinks plenty of it.

TEATY ['ti:tɪ] ['tɛɪtɪ] - peevish, fretful (of children).

TEEM [ti:m] [tɛɪm] - pour (out); past tense temmed [tɛmd].

TEG [tɛg] - tooth (child's).

TELL [tɛl] - warn, scold, advise.

TELLED [tɛld] - told.

TETCHY, TETTY ['tɛtʃɪ], ['tɛtɪ] - peevish, irritable, short-tempered, hasty.

THACK [θak] - n. + v. thatch.

THACK INTO ['θakˌɪntə] - become eagerly occupied in, e.g. eating.

THACKER ['θakə] - thatcher. To work "like a thacker".

THEE [ðɛɪ] - second person nominative singular personal pronoun, in stressed positions, e.g. [ðɛɪ gɑ fə ðɪs] 'You go for this'. Often used in the accusative, e.g. [ɑ: 'ɛnə 'pli:ɪn wɪ ðɛɪ] 'I'm not playing with you'.

THEM [ðɛm] - those (demonstrative pronoun and adjective), e.g. "them apples".

THINK SUMMAT [θɪŋk 'sʊmət] - think something is wrong, feel offended.

THRALL [θrɔ:l] - cupboard under stairs in which were kept, e.g. pig sides, eggs in pippins, and hams; or a stand or frame for barrels, milk-pans etc.

THRASH [θraʃ] - a collier was asked "Where's t'missus?" and replied "Ew's at om, thrashing t'spade", i.e. gardening. See STICK - "give it some stick".

THREADLE ['θrɛd̩l̩] - v. thread (a needle).

THREAP [θrɛɪp] [θri:p] - contend, argue persistently, complain.

THREBLE ['θrɛbl̩] - treble.

THREE-WEEK ['θrɛɪ wɪk] - n. period of three weeks.

THROAT [θrɔut] - "Do you think your throat's cut?", i.e. are you very hungry?

THRONG [θrɔŋ] (thronged) - busy; "as throng as Throp's wife".

THROSTLE, THROCKIE, THROCK ['θrɔsl̩], ['θrɔkɪ], [θrɔk] - thrush (song thrush).

THRUM [θrʊm] - n. + v. noise made by a contented cat (opposite of SWEAR).

THUMPER ['θʊmpə] - monstrous lie.

THUMPING ['θʊmpɪn] - great, big.

THUNDER FLIES ['θʊndə flɒɪs] - tiny flies seen on a humid day, said to be a sign of thunder storms.

TICK AND TAN ['tɪkən,tan] - indulge in light horseplay.

TICKLE ['tɪkl̩] ['tɪtl̩] - stir gently (a fire, or in dusting).

TIDDLE ['tɪdl̩] - urinate. "Tiddle a brook to swim a duck to grandma's" - jingle to encourage a very young child to urinate.

TIDDY ['tɪdɪ] - very small, tiny (usually with "little").

TIME [tɒɪm] - often used after "o'clock" to approximate. [ə'bɛ:t? tɪu ə'klɔk tɒɪm] 'About two o'clock time'.

TIPPLE ['tɪpl̩] over ['ɔvə] - tumble, fall over.

TISSICKY ['tɪzɪkɪ] - squeamish, particular about food.

TISS TISS! [tɪs tɪs] - spoken in calling a cat, i.e. "puss, puss!".

TITTLE! ['tɪtl̩] - a minor exclamation of contempt, "Tittle off" - go away.

TITTLECOCK FAIR ['tɪtl̩ kɔk fɛə] - a fair, possibly at Little Eaton.

TOAD [tɔud] - as free from money as a toad is from feathers (simile for a person with no money). The same formula could be used for subjects other than money.

TOMMY ['tɔmɪ] - "Neither Tommy nor Nanny" - i.e. something even. Neither one thing nor the other.

TOOTLE ['tɪutl̩] (or CHOOTLE ['tʃɪutl̩], or chortle ['tʃɔ:tl̩]) - chirp, sing, whistle.

TO RIGHTS [tə rɒɪts] - exactly, completely, perfectly.

TOT [tɔt] (out) - pour steadily, pour into tots.

A TOTTERING TIME [ə 'tɔtərɪn tɒɪm] - a difficult, trying time.

TOWELLING ['ta'əlɪn] - beating.

TRAIL [trɛɪl] [tri:l] - walk slowly.

TRAP [trap] - mouth.

TRAPS [traps] - clothes, belongings, baggage.

TREE [trɛɪ] - "To pull up trees" - to do well for oneself.

TROLL [trɔl] - slovenly person.

TRUNDLE ['trɔndl̩] - push (a barrow etc.).

TRUNDLEMENTS ['trɔndl̩mənts] - impedimenta, encumbrances.

TUP [tɔp] - v. butt (of sheep). n. ram.

TURD [tɔd] - "If you carry a tod about you think everybody else stinks". Proverbial saying meaning people with faults often see those faults in others without recognizing them in themselves.

TURN THE CORNER [tɔnʔ 'kɔ:nə] - euphemism for "die".

TUTTER ['tutə] - mutter.

TWILLY TOED ['twɪlɪ tu:d] [tɔud] - toes turning in (when walking).

TWITCH [twɪtʃ] - cooch grass, couch grass (coarse, fast-growing grass).

TWITCHELL ['twɪtʃəl] - passage between allotments, as opposed to GENNEL - passage between houses (see JITTY also).

TWITTER ['twɪtə] - n. + v. tremble. All of a "twitter".

TWO-THREE ['tɪu θrɪ] - two or three, a few. "Two or three weeks" is commonly referred to as "a two-three week" [ə tɪu θrɪ wɪk].

U

UNBEKNOWN ['ɑnbɪˌnɔun] - unknown.

US [əz] [ɑz] - we, our, e.g. [ʃal əz ɛɪ əz 'dɪnəz] 'Shall we have our dinners?'

USSENS [ɑz'sɛnz] - ourselves.

W

WACKEN ['wakn̩] - smart, alive, e.g. [lɪuk'wak?n̩] 'Look alive!' [ɛɪz ə 'wakn̩ ən] 'He's a smart, alert person'.

WAKES [wẹɪks] - to make a wakes of, i.e. to make the most of, usually food, e.g. a piece of cake. Food was eaten plentifully at the wakes or fair.

WALLICK ['wɔlɪk] - in "Wallick handed" - i.e. left-handed.

WANG [waŋ] - throw.

WAPPY ['wapɪ] - foolish, silly, especially in behaviour or speech (see BILLY WAP).

WAPS [waps] - wasp.

WARM [wa:m] [wɔ:m] - thrash.

WATER ['watə] - "He's got plenty of water on his wheel", i.e. he has plenty of trouble or work on his hands.

WATER-BLOBS ['watə blɔbz] - marsh marigolds.

WAX [waks] - occurs in the following similes: "as tight as wax", "as white as wax".

WAXY KERNELS ['waksɪ 'kɛənl̩z] - small harmless swellings by the ear.

WAYN'T [wɛɪnt] (or WINNA ['wɪnə]) - won't, will not.

WAYS [wi:z] - [kɔm ðɪ wi:z] 'Come thy ways', [gu: ðɪ wi:z] 'Go thy ways'.

WAZ [waz] - v. urinate, n. urine.

WEAR [weə] [wɛə] - [a' jə 'weərɪn] 'How are you wearing?' - i.e. How are you?
- put up with [wɛɪ ad tə wɛər əm] 'We had to put up with them'.

WEATHER BREEDER ['weðəˌbrɛɪdə] - fiercely sultry weather which often precedes heavy rain, e.g. "It's a fine day but no doubt a weather breeder".

WELL DONE TO [ˌwɛl'dɔn tɪu] - well cared for, looked after.

WERRIT (worrit) ['wɛrɪt] - n. + v. worry; a person who worries.

WEZZEK ['wɛzək] - scatterbrain. [ðɑ:t ə rɛɪʔ 'wɛzək] 'You are a right wezzek!'

WEZZEL-BRAINED ['wɛzl̩ bri:nd] - stupid.

WHIMSEY POOL ['wɪmzɪ pu:l] [pɪul] - small pond for storing water for the pit or cattle.

WHITTLE ['wɪtl̩] - worry, talk about one's worries.

WITH [wɪ] [wɛɪ] - by, in such contexts as [ðɛɪz 'fɒtʔpadz əz pla:d ɔp wɪ 'fɑ:məz] 'These footpaths are ploughed up with farmers', and [jɔud ad tə bɪ pas fɪtʔ wɪ ə 'dɔktə] 'You'd had to be passed fit with a doctor', and [ðal bɪ rɔn wɪtʔ 'bɔbɪ] 'You will be chased by the policeman'.

WITHY ['wɪðɪ] - willow.

WOM [wɔm] - home.

WOM IT! ['wɔmɪt] - go home! (often said to dogs).

WOODEN ['wɑdən] - man made of smoke. "Th'art like a wooden man made of smoke", i.e. you are no good for anything. Often said affectionately to children.

WOOLED [wɔld] - "A good wooled un" - term of admiration.

WORKISH ['wɔkɪʃ] ['wəkɪʃ] - disposed to work.

WRINKLE ['rɪŋkl̩] - idea, trick, e.g. "I can show you a wrinkle or two". "It ought to have been Friday, it would have been (or I should have had) another wrinkle." This is said when anyone tells a person something he did not know.

Y

YAFFLE ['jafl̩] - bark (dog).

YARK [jɑ̟:k] - jerk, pull.[1]

YEA [jɛɪ] - yes (occasionally and emphatic).

YEAD [jɛd] - head.

YONDER ['jɔndə] [jɔn] - indicates direction.

YOUTH [jɪuθ] [jɛuθ] - used in addressing brothers and intimate male friends (of any age).

YOWL [ja:l] - howl.

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1. See J.R.R. Tolkien and E.V. Gordon (eds), Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, 2nd ed. revised by Norman Davis. Oxford, 1967, p. 23, l.820.